METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR LOCATION-BASED ACCESS CONTROL IN A COMPUTER NETWORK

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A system for restricting access to a computer network based on client location is disclosed. The system includes an authenticator for requesting a client identity from a client when it is attempting connection to the network. Upon receiving the identity, the authenticator associates location information with the identity. The location information can represent the physical location of the switch, or alternatively, the location of a network edge device that communicates with the client over a wireless channel. The identity and associated location information are then passed to an authentication server. The authentication server authenticates the client identity and compares the location information against a policy designating locations, if any, at which the client is permitted to connect to the network. The server then decides whether to grant or deny the client access to the network based on the authenticity of the identity and the comparison of the location information.